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House of Representatives

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September 1, 2013

The Honorable John Kerry  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I'm writing to you to express my strongest condemnation of the recent reported massacre of Camp Ashraf, which occurred today, September 1, 2013. I have previously written to you to express my concern for the well being of these residents and those of Camp Hurriya, and to condemn the persistent vicious attacks against them.

This horrific massacre left 52 Ashraf residents dead, dozens wounded and at least 14 individuals remain held in captivity. Reports indicated that today's massacre was perpetrated by the same Iraqi forces who are supposed to protect the Hurriya residents. The same reports indicate that the perpetrators even shot some of the residents while they were handcuffed and completely defenseless. It should be obvious by now that the residents of Camp Ashraf are not safe, but I am disappointed to see that little has been done to ensure their protection and safety.

As I have noted in previous letters, these residents were guaranteed their safety by both the UN and the Iraqi government in the Memo of Understanding (MoU) of December 25, 2011. The Iraqi government committed itself to providing the safety and security of these residents but, to date it has not lived up to its obligations. I urge you to call on the Government of Iraq to immediately investigate this horrendous attack and to use all measures to prevent any further attacks on these defenseless residents until it can ensure the safety that these residents were clearly guaranteed in the MoU of 2011. I would also request that you call upon the Iraqi government to honor its obligations under the MoU and ensure the safety and security of these residents, and that the residents are returned to Ashraf until they can be safely relocated to another country.

Sincerely,

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

Chairman

Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa